

**ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
HABITAT PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE
HABITAT ENHANCEMENT AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT
PROPOSAL**

Game Branch / HPC Project Number:	14-606
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PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Christopher Mountain Prescribed Fire

Region and Game Management Unit: 23

Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC):

- Payson Natural Resources Committee

Was the project presented to the LHPC?

YES☒ **NO**☐

Has this project been submitted in previous years? YES☐ NO☒

If Yes, was it funded? YES☐ NO☐ → **Funded HPC Project #(s):**

Project Type: Prescribed Fire

Brief Project Summary: Conduct a 5000 acre prescribed burn in order to treat decadent chaparral on the South side of Christopher Mountain. The burn will be conducted using aerial ignition (Helitorch) in order to generate enough heat to create a mosaic pattern in the rugged and heavily overgrown winter range.

Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit: Elk 35%, Mule deer 20%, Whitetail 20%, Bear 15%, Turkey 10%

Implementation Schedule (Month/Day/Year):

Project Start Date:

Fall 2015

Project End Date:

Fall of 2015 if burn conditions are favorable.

If not the Fall of 2016

Environmental Compliance:

NEPA Completed: Yes☒ No☐ N/A☐

Projected Completion Date: _____

State Historic Preservation Office - Archaeological Clearance:

Yes☒ No☐ N/A☐

Projected Completion Date: _____

Arizona Game and Fish Department EA Checklist: N/A☐

To be Completed by: Dave Daniels

Projected Completion Date: 3/2015

PROJECT FUNDING

Special Big Game License Tag Funds Requested:

\$ \$25,000

Cost Share or Matching Funds:

\$ \$21,000

Total Project Costs:

\$ \$46,000

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Applicant (please print):

Dave Daniels

Address:

7200 E University Mesa AZ 85207

E-mail:

ddaniels@azgfd.gov

Telephone: 480-528-8774	Date: 8/21/14
AGFD Contact and Phone No. (If applicant is not AGFD personnel):	
Project has been coordinated with: USFS, Payson Ranger District	

NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS:

The South and West aspects of Christopher Mountain are severely overgrown with chaparral. This area utilized by elk, mule deer, whitetail deer and turkeys as well as predators and numerous species of small game. A mosaic pattern of both burned and unburned vegetation would improve plant diversity and benefit multiple species of wildlife.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

Treat decadent chaparral with high intensity fire. The goal is to break up the brush continuity and create a mosaic pattern of burned and unburned vegetation. This project will improve plant diversity for the benefit of numerous game and non- game species.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES:

The Tonto National Forest fire crews will conduct a prescribed burn on the South side Of Christopher Mountain. The burn is to treat decadent chaparral in order to break up the continuity of the heavy brush. The burn will be conducted using aerial ignition in such a manner as to create a mosaic of burned and unburned vegetation.

PROJECT LOCATION:

T11N, R12E, Section 35
T10.5N, R12E, Sections 19, 20, 21, 22, 35,26,27,28

LAND OWNERSHIP AT THE PROJECT SITE(S):

(if the project area is private property, please state specifically and provide the landowner's name)

- The land is managed by the USFS, Tonto National Forest, Payson Ranger District.

IF PRIVATE PROPERTY, IS THERE A COOPERATIVE BIG GAME STEWARDSHIP or LANDOWNER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LANDOWNER AND THE DEPARTMENT?

YES[] NO[] N/A[X]

HABITAT DESCRIPTION:

The proposed burn area is a pinon pine and oak woodland that has been heavily overgrown with chaparral.

ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:Special Big Game License Tag Funds

\$25,000 - Pay for the use of the helicopter, the helitorch equipment and operator.

Cost Share or Matching Funds (for volunteer labor rates please refer to the worksheet below)

\$20,000- USFS – The Payson Ranger district will provide a fire crew and their equipment, write and execute the burn plan and provide technical support in the form of administration and clearances.

LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:

SBG Funds - \$25,000

USFS - \$20,000

AGFD - \$1000 Project administration

WOULD IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PROJECT ASSIST IN PROVIDING, MAINTAINING, OR FACILITATING RECREATIONAL ACCESS?

YES[] NO[] N/A[X]

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:

The project will be monitored by the project proponent and the Payson Ranger District

PROJECT MAINTENANCE:

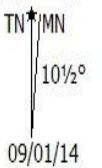
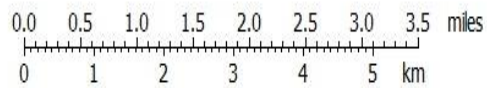
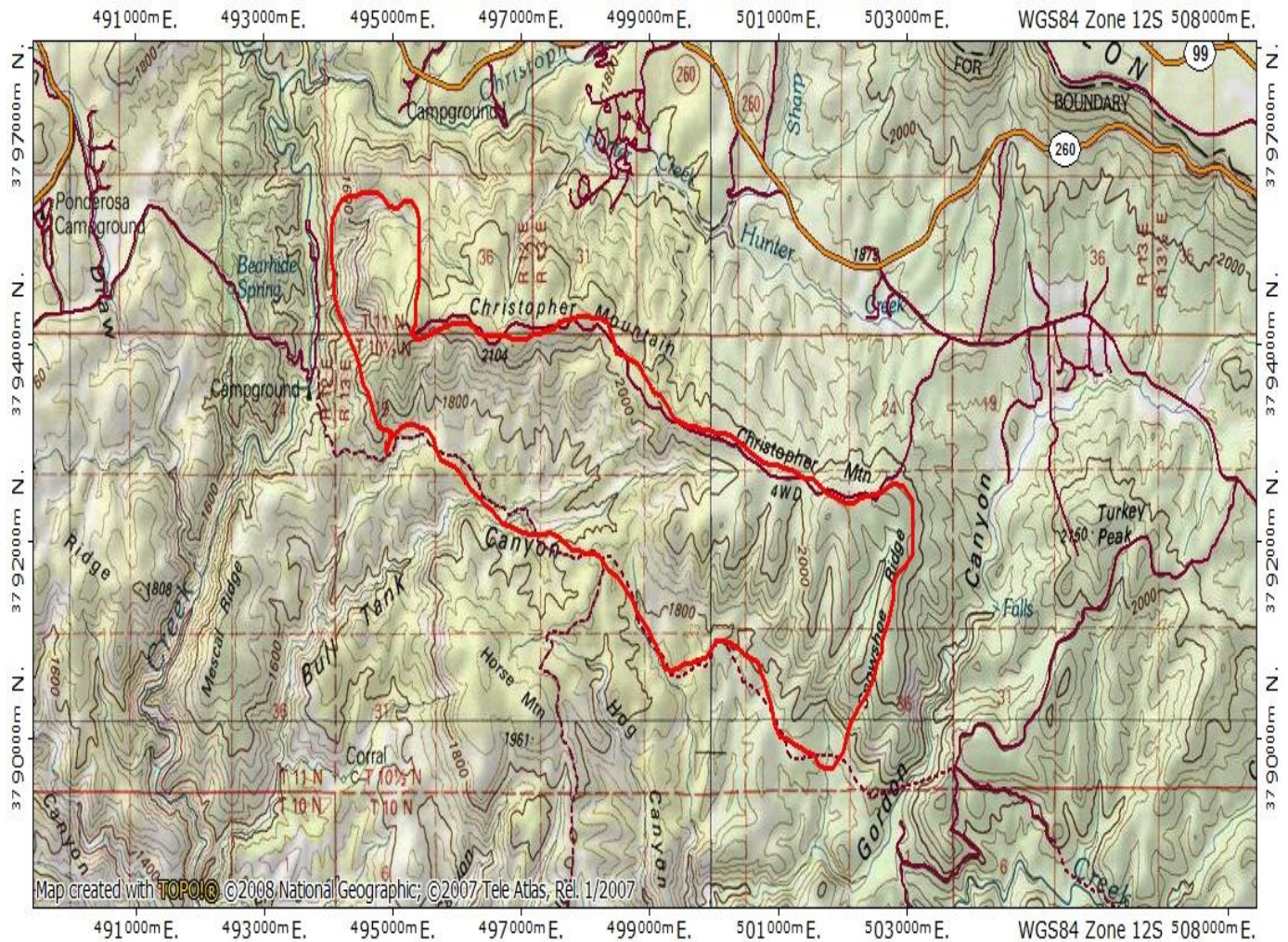
Payson Ranger District

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:

Project proponent

WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (please use the worksheet below):**TREE CLEARING/REMOVAL PROJECTS (please use the worksheet below):**

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